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## FIELD AND FARM.

### Root Crops for Stock.

During the past few years considerable interest has been shown in some parts of the west in raising root crops to feed to farm animals. A variety of causes have prevented much attention being paid to them till recently. In many places there is more grass than the animals can eat. Most of the territory occupied by settlers had a soil and climate well adapted to the production of Indian corn. The climate of those regions was not well adapted to the production of root crops, which are more generally raised in Great Britain for stock purposes than any other vegetable. The seasons generally were too dry and hot to admit of their making a good growth. The yield was often small, and the roots were likely to be hard and tough. But a small number of laborers are kept on most western farms, and as a rule it has been difficult to obtain help to plant, weed, and thin root crops. The winters in parts of the west north of the great "corn belt" are severe, and the difficulties in preserving roots to feed to stock are many. Large quantities of roots are raised in the north, and the majority of farmers do not know how to preserve roots in pits. Besides, our agricultural chemists tell us that the food value of every kind of food can be determined by analysis, have placed roots among the poorest kind of stock food.

Various reasons, however, have recently led to the production of roots. A large amount of land north of the region where corn can be profitably raised has been settled. Cattle, horses, and sheep are raised in numbers in many places, and the comparative scarcity of the seasons have been more favorable to the production of roots, being comparatively cool and moist. The farmers of the north have generally raised large crops. The roots raised have been of good quality. Drills for sowing the seed and cultivating the crops have been improved. A number of machines have been brought out for cutting and pulping roots before they are fed to animals. The farmers of the north have been buying large quantities of roots to feed their cattle. Some of our best breeders of fine cattle, like Mr. Miller, at Beecher, Ill., have become convinced that roots are a very valuable food, and that they should keep animals in good condition. They advocate feeding them to cattle and sheep once every day when their diet food is hay and grain. Some of our best breeders of fine cattle, like Mr. Miller, at Beecher, Ill., have become convinced that roots are a very valuable food, and that they should keep animals in good condition. They advocate feeding them to cattle and sheep once every day when their diet food is hay and grain.

The production of roots enable farmers to keep more stock, which nearly everyone who owns stock desires to do. The seed for a crop of roots is very little. Land is generally improved by raising a crop of roots on it. The shade of their leaves is beneficial, and the working of the soil puts it in excellent condition for the production of grain. Good turnips and mangels cannot be raised when the atmosphere is hot and dry during the growing season, but even in places where a long drought prevails, roots can be raised. The climate of Wisconsin, Minnesota, northern Iowa, and Dakota is well adapted to the growth of turnips, and in a near future they will be likely to be one of the leading crops of the north. Beets, carrots and parsnips also do well. By raising all of them farmers are enabled to supply their animals with a variety of food. During the winter months and sheep feed of dry hay and straw. Grain affords some variety, but that, too, contains very little moisture, and is almost destitute of flavor. Even horses are grateful for an occasional feed of carrots.

Land intended for the production of either of the vegetables should be free from weeds and grass, and the soil should be made rich by the liberal use of well-rotted manure, that saved from the cow-barn being the best. The soil should be deeply plowed and well pulverized. Land that is not to be used for roots is unsuitable for raising roots. The seed of beets, carrots and parsnips should be planted quite early, as a long season is required for them to grow. Turnips, however, can be planted later, and in working the roots ought to be straight. If they are straight and at equal distance apart the soil between them can be used for other crops. A portion of the parsnips can be allowed to remain in the ground till spring, as freezing does not injure them. Successive freezing and thawing only serves to change the texture of the parsnips, and makes them very desirable food for fowls as well as for cattle.

### Small vs. Large Farms.

Our own notion is that small farms, well cultivated, are invariably the most profitable, says the American Agriculturist, and hence we are inclined to believe that the farmer would sell half or two-thirds of the land he now occupies and poorly tills and manages, and devote his entire time and attention to the culture of the remainder. The farmer who would derive more profit from his labor and investment, with much less vexation of spirit. The fact is, as somebody truly asserts, we have too many farmers who are "hard poor," who have so much land they cannot make a living. Paradoxical as this may appear, it applies truthfully to many naturally fertile farms. The farmer who has a large farm has learned that it is not economical to own more land than they can till in the most profitable manner. They will have solved the problem of case in practical rural life. The farmer who has a large farm has learned that it is not economical to own more land than they can till in the most profitable manner. They will have solved the problem of case in practical rural life.

### Poultry Houses.

Poultry must be kept warm in winter if you expect eggs, and, while warm, the ventilation must be most thorough. If the house is battened the battens must be kept well raised. If there are cracks they must be closed. Then the inside of the house with tar paper, and also the sides and overhead. Provide plenty of light. Then ventilation is important. It must be kept in mind that the fowls are in the house with the open side to the wall, the lower end a foot above the floor. Cut a hole through the wall into the box at the upper end and put a cap on the upper end so that the opening will be only to the outside air. This will give draft enough to take out the foul air charged with carbonic acid gas from the respiration of the chickens, and their exhalations, and will retain the warm air generated from a large number of fowls, keeping the inside at a considerably

## UNDECEIVED JUST IN TIME.

### Strange Delusion of an English Girl and Man.

They Elope to America to Marry, and are Arrested at Castle Garden—The Girl to Return to Her English Beau.

New York Telegraph: Joseph Snape, a butcher of Birmingham, England, became enamored of pretty Fannie Jennings, the daughter of a well-to-do grocer who was his next-door neighbor. Although Snape was several years her senior and married, the young lady informed him that she loved him well enough to leave her husband, and he was determined to become the husband of Fannie, but wanted to do so with honor.

Fannie herself had an accepted suitor named William Davies, a brass finisher. When Snape's attentions began to be agreeable to her she gradually grew cold toward Davies, who, however, was so blindly fond of her that he was content to receive a merely of her affection.

In the meantime Snape consulted his friends as to the best method of ridding himself of his distasteful family alliance. One of them, either in jest or in earnest, informed him that in the United States he would find a girl without the necessity of procuring a formal divorce. Believing this upon his own nose, Snape persuaded the young woman to elope with him, and they started for America on the morning of the 10th inst.

A disappointed bridegroom. Finally, when he lacked only twenty-four hours of the time for the marriage ceremony between Fannie and Davies, Snape decided that he might lose his sweetheart if he longer delayed, so he eloped with her on the morning of the 10th inst. Snape was barely able to pay the passage for his passage, it is believed he left his family destitute. He eloped with her on the morning of the 10th inst. Snape was barely able to pay the passage for his passage, it is believed he left his family destitute.

Both maintained that they conscientiously believed they could legally marry in this country and had acted innocently. They were both, however, were released by the federal authorities, Fannie being remanded to the care of the immigration commissioners.

When Detective Groden returned to Castle Garden with the other couple, Snape was found in the deserted house. Davies, in it he promised to forgive her faithlessness and marry her upon her arrival in America. He also offered to pay her passage back across the ocean. The girl, however, was not to be so easily won, and she refused to accept of his offer.

Snape was sorrowful and chagrined over what he called his "mistake," and he decided to leave the country. He was, however, was released by the federal authorities, Fannie being remanded to the care of the immigration commissioners.

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